

# SOMALIA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #4, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2015

AUGUST 17, 2015

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**3 million**

Somalis in Need of Humanitarian Assistance  
UN – July 2015

**Nearly 1 million**

Somalis Experiencing Crisis or Emergency Levels of Acute Food Insecurity  
FEWS NET – July 2015

**1.1 million**

IDPs in Somalia  
UNHCR – July 2015

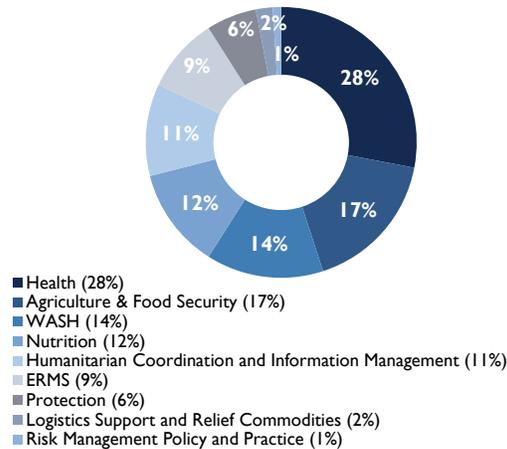
**968,100**

Somali Refugees in Neighboring Countries  
UNHCR – July 2015

**422,200**

Somali Refugees in Kenya  
UNHCR – July 2015

## USAID/OFDA<sup>1</sup> FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2015



## USAID/FFP<sup>2</sup> FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2015



## HIGHLIGHTS

- The number of food-insecure Somalis will likely increase slightly through December
- The CERF allocates \$20 million to support humanitarian activities in Somalia
- USAID/OFDA provides more than \$16 million in additional humanitarian assistance

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO SOMALIA TO DATE IN FY 2015

USAID/OFDA	\$25,456,507
USAID/FFP	\$99,441,198
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$31,600,000

**\$156,497,705**  
TOTAL USAID AND STATE ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On July 29, the Tripartite Commission—comprising the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the governments of Kenya and Somalia—agreed to bolster assistance for Somali refugees in Kenya who voluntarily return to Somalia. The commission also developed a five-year strategy to facilitate the voluntary repatriation of approximately 435,000 refugees currently residing in Kenya to nine identified areas in Somalia. The phased strategy includes plans to support the voluntary return of 10,000 refugees in 2015.
- In early July, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) released a mid-year report on the Somalia 2015 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). The report indicated that approximately 3 million people require urgent humanitarian assistance. In addition, nearly one million Somalis are unable to meet basic food requirements, according to the USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET). The HRP calls for \$863 million in humanitarian assistance to reach 2.8 million people; relief actors reported assisting 658,000 people—nearly 24 percent of the target—as of June 30 while donors had provided nearly \$283 million—33 percent—of the requested funding as of August 17.

<sup>1</sup> USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

<sup>2</sup> USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

## INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT, AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- Ongoing insecurity continues to restrict humanitarian access in areas of Somalia—especially in Bulo Burte District, Hiran Region, and Waajid District, Bakool Region—and increase the cost of delivering humanitarian assistance. Armed actors frequently target humanitarian personnel and assets, significantly restricting movement for many organizations and constraining humanitarian operations in the country. Recent security incidents targeting relief staff have included arrests and detentions, carjackings, physical assaults, attacks on humanitarian facilities, and threats and intimidation.
- On July 17, the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and the Somali National Army (SNA) launched a new offensive—Operation Jubba Corridor—against armed group al-Shabaab in southern Somalia, according to AMISOM. The offensive aims to restore Somali government authority in areas held by al-Shabaab while facilitating humanitarian access to affected populations, according to the African Union. The UN has expressed concern for the safety of populations in central and southern Somalia, as the ongoing AMISOM–SNA offensive may generate protection needs among internally displaced populations (IDPs). Active fighting may also further restrict population movement, trade, and humanitarian access, increasing food prices for conflict-affected households.
- In July, an estimated 380 Somali refugees from the Dadaab camp in Kenya repatriated to Somalia under the UNHCR-supported voluntary returns process. With UNHCR assistance, approximately 3,000 Somali refugees voluntarily returned from Kenya to Somalia between December 2014 and August 2015—completing the pilot phase of a UNHCR-led voluntary repatriation effort, according to the UN. Approximately 75 percent of returnees were children, and nearly 3,100 people—more than 93 percent—settled in Baidoa town, Bay Region, and Kismayo town, Lower Juba Region. UNHCR is supporting returnees with financial assistance to ensure safe and dignified returns, as well as providing longer-term assistance to help returnees reintegrate.
- During the July 29 Tripartite Commission meeting, representatives agreed to bolster support for the voluntary repatriation of Somali refugees from Kenya to Somalia. The Commission also developed a five-year plan to facilitate the safe, dignified, and voluntary repatriation of approximately 435,000 Somali refugees from Kenya by 2019. To strengthen the resilience of refugees and host communities in Kenya while creating conditions in Somalia that are conducive to sustainable reintegration, the Commission plans to call for substantial international assistance in support of the five-year repatriation plan, presenting a portfolio of potential projects at a pledging conference scheduled for late 2015.
- On July 28, the UN Security Council renewed the mandate of the UN Assistance Operation in Somalia (UNSOM) and AMISOM through March 2016 and May 2016, respectively. The revised AMISOM mandate included language requesting AMISOM prioritize securing key supply routes in areas newly liberated from al-Shabaab to improve the humanitarian situation in affected areas.

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## AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

- The number of people experiencing Crisis and Emergency—IPC 3 and 4—levels of food insecurity in Somalia is likely to increase slightly through December, according to FEWS NET.<sup>4</sup> Food-insecure populations include vulnerable households in agro-pastoral areas of Awdal, Hiran, and Middle Juba regions due to erratic April-to-June *gu* rains. Cereal stocks for many agro-pastoral households are depleted due to below-average *gu* rains and food security for some populations may deteriorate to Emergency levels during the July-to-November lean season.
- Additional food-insecure households reside in riverine areas of Middle Shabelle Region that experienced flooding in April and May. Flooding in riverine areas prevented cropping, hindered humanitarian access, and limited trade, resulting in limited food access and increased food prices. Households in riverine areas are vulnerable to Emergency-level food insecurity during the October-to-December *deyr* rains, as above-average rainfall may result in additional flooding while below-average rains may cause poor harvests.

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<sup>4</sup>The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a standardized tool that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

- Food security is likely to improve in most pastoral livelihood zones between August and September, as livestock production and value are above average. Households in pastoral areas are likely to experience Minimal—IPC 1—levels of food insecurity by December, according to FEWS NET.
- In mid-June, USAID/FFP provided approximately \$15 million to the UN World Food Program (WFP) to support the procurement of 8,510 metric tons (MT) of corn, yellow split peas, vegetable oil and specialized nutrition products. With this contribution, WFP is providing food-for-work, food-for-training, general food distributions, hot meals, targeted and blanket supplementary feedings, school feedings, and mother and child health and nutrition activities for up to 1.9 million beneficiaries. In August, USAID/FFP provided an additional \$1.7 million to WFP, including 470 MT of Super Cereal to prevent child malnutrition, bringing total USAID/FFP support to WFP to nearly \$69 million to date in FY 2015. USAID/FFP also continues to support humanitarian response actors to improve food security and strengthen community-level assets and livelihoods through cash and voucher programming.

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## NUTRITION AND HEALTH

- While overall food security and nutrition gaps remain a significant concern, especially among IDPs, national median global acute malnutrition (GAM) prevalence rates in Somalia declined from nearly 15 percent to 12 percent between January and June, according to the UN. During the same period, humanitarian actors treated more than 116,000 children under five years of age for malnutrition and reached approximately 44,000 children with school feeding programs.
- More than 200,000 children in Somalia were experiencing acute malnutrition as of June 30—representing a nearly 7 percent decline since August 2014. GAM prevalence among IDPs in Bay’s Baidoa District, Gedo Region’s Dhobley town and Dolow District, Mudug Region’s Galkayo District, and Nugal Region’s Garowe District, however, are significant concerns and remain above the global emergency threshold of 15 percent.
- The situation is of particular concern in Dhobley, where GAM prevalence had nearly doubled since late 2014 to approximately 21 percent by July. The nutrition situation has also deteriorated in Bakool’s Xudur town, with acute malnutrition prevalence nearly doubling between June and July, according to the UN Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit in Somalia. While an assessment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in Bulo Burte during the same period indicated a slight improvement, the situation remains critical, with a quarter of all children younger than five years of age experiencing acute malnutrition.
- Between January and June, health actors reported more than 4,500 suspected measles cases, of which health actors identified approximately 57 percent in southern and central Somalia, according to the UN. Measles transmission persists in Somalia due to low vaccination prevalence—health actors estimate coverage to be less than 50 percent in some areas of south-central Somalia.
- USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$7.1 million in support to date for life-saving health interventions for conflict-affected populations across Somalia. USAID/OFDA implementing partners are helping to mitigate morbidity and mortality of vulnerable households, including IDPs, and increasing access to basic health care services throughout the country.

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## OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

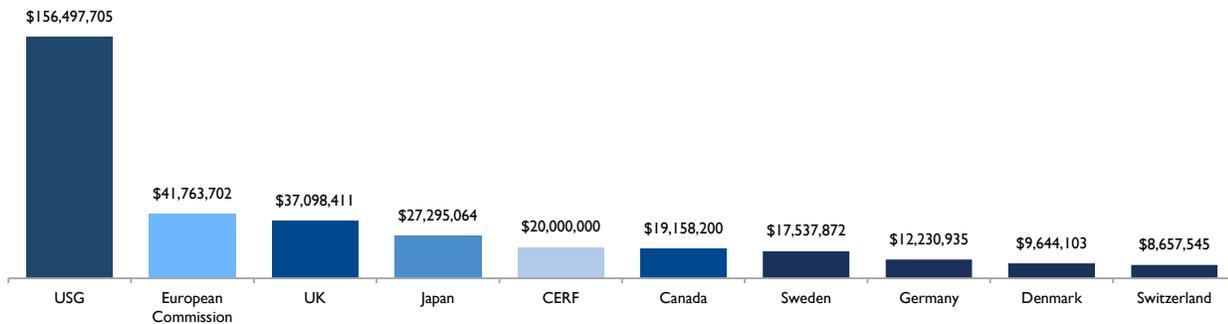
- In August, the UN Central Emergency Fund (CERF)—a pooled humanitarian fund established and managed by the UN to support underfunded emergencies—allocated approximately \$20 million to Somalia, including approximately \$5 million for food security interventions, the UN reports. The Food Security Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian food security activities in Somalia, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders—has made providing unconditional cash assistance to IDPs in central and southern Somalia, flood-affected populations in Middle Shabelle and Lower Shabelle regions, and vulnerable populations in areas recently liberated by AMISOM as a high priority. In addition, the Cluster plans to prioritize CERF funding for distributing agricultural inputs and vaccinating livestock.

- As of August 17, donors have provided nearly \$283 million to the 2015 HRP for Somalia, which details the UN humanitarian objectives and funding needs for the year. International donors have provided an additional \$124 million for humanitarian efforts in Somalia not listed as part of the HRP.

## CONTEXT

- Since 1991, Somalia has experienced a persistent complex emergency due to chronic food insecurity, widespread violence, and recurrent droughts and floods. The 2011 drought—widely regarded as the country’s worst in 60 years—severely reduced food security among pastoralists and populations in marginal farming areas, resulting in famine in areas of Bay, Bakool, and Lower and Middle Shabelle regions, as well as among IDPs in Mogadishu and the nearby Afgooye corridor.
- Despite modest improvements in 2014 and 2015, malnutrition rates in Somalia remain among the highest in the world, and ongoing insecurity in the country—particularly in areas that lack established local authorities and where al-Shabaab is present—contributes to the complex emergency. Sustained life-saving humanitarian assistance, coupled with interventions aimed at protecting livelihoods and building resilience, is critical to help vulnerable households meet basic needs, reduce malnutrition, and protect livelihoods.
- Due to ongoing and anticipated humanitarian needs, on October 1, 2014, U.S. Ambassador James P. McNulty, Special Representative for Somalia in Nairobi, Kenya, renewed the disaster declaration for the complex emergency in Somalia for FY 2015.

## 2015 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\* PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of August 17, 2015. All international figures are according to OCHA’s Financial Tracking Service, based on international commitments during the current calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG, and reflect the most recent USG commitments in FY 2015, which began on October 1, 2014.

## USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA PROVIDED IN FY 2015<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
Implementing Partners	Agriculture and Food Security; Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS); Health; Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management; Logistics Support and Relief Commodities; Nutrition; Protection; Risk Management Policy and Practice; Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)	Countrywide	\$25,456,507
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$25,456,507</b>

USAID/FFP <sup>3</sup>			
WFP and Implementing Partners	40,680 MT of In-Kind Emergency Food Assistance for Relief, Nutrition, Safety Net, and Livelihoods Activities; Cash Assistance and Food Vouchers	Countrywide	\$99,441,198
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$99,441,198</b>
STATE/PRM			
International Humanitarian Organizations	Multi-Sector Protection and Assistance Activities to Aid Refugees, IDPs, and Conflict-Affected Victims	Countrywide	\$31,600,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$31,600,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA IN FY 2015</b>			<b>\$156,497,705</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents obligated funding amounts as of August 17, 2015.

<sup>3</sup> Estimated value of food assistance.

## PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [www.interaction.org](http://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.821.1999.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).